Acts 13:5-14

Conflict and the Gospel Spreads

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The Word of God Is Preached

Acts 13:5, 6 (NASB)

When they reached Salamis, they began to proclaim the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews; and they also had John as their helper. When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they found a magician, a Jewish false prophet whose name was Bar-Jesus,

- Jesus began His ministry in synagogues (Lk 4:15)
- Jesus preached the Word (Lk 4:17-20)
- Jesus was opposed (Lk 4:28, 29)

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The Word of God Is Opposed

Acts 13:7, 8 (NASB)

who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence. This man summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. But Elymas the magician (for so his name is translated) was opposing them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith.

- "Turn" is *diastrepho_* (to pervert) and is used 5 times in Luke/Acts out of 7 in the NT
- There often was occult opposition: (Acts 8:9-11, 21; Acts 16:16-21; Acts 19:13-20)

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Paul Rebukes the Evil Prophet

Acts 13:9, 10 (NASB)

But Saul, who was also known as Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, fixed his gaze on him, and said, "You who are full of all deceit and fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease to make crooked the straight ways of the Lord?"

- The Greek indicates that Paul had been known by this name for some time
- Here Paul as a prophet (Acts 13:1-2) speaks an oracle of judgment by the Spirit (Luke 10:19-20)

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Judgment and Faith

Acts 13:11, 12 (NASB)

"Now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and not see the sun for a time." And immediately a mist and a darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking those who would lead him by the hand. Then the proconsul believed when he saw what had happened, being amazed at the teaching of the Lord.

- Many times in Luke/Acts, some are judged and others saved in the context of one event

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Paul Travels to Preach

Acts 13:13, 14 (NASB)

Now Paul and his companions put out to sea from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia; but John left them and returned to Jerusalem. But going on from Perga, they arrived at Pisidian Antioch, and on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down.

- Perga in Pamphylia and Pisidian Antioch are in modern day Turkey
- It was customary in Acts for them to go to the synagogue first

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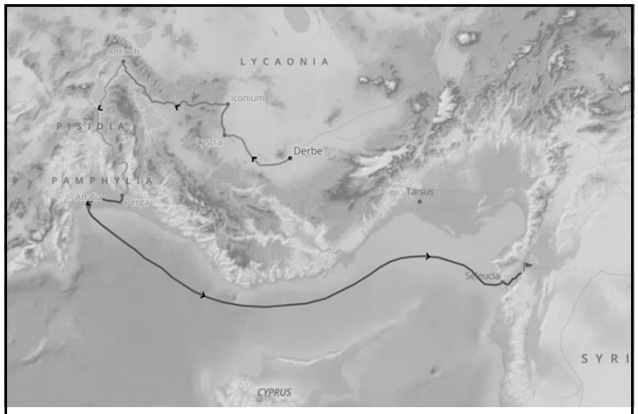

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